

COMINT

CHANNELS

CIA/OCI/WHIZ 740831

CIA/WHSS

ROUTING	1	4	7	10
	2	5	8	11
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ITEM NO: (2) DATE: 31 AUGUST 1974
SUBJECT: MORE SPECUALTION ON NEW EGYPTIAN PRIME MINISTER
REF : AFP, UPI PRESS ITEMS

CAIRO COLUMNIST ALI BAKRIN REPORTS IN HIS WEEKLY ARTICLE TODAY THAT PRESIDENT SADAT WILL TURN OVER THE PRIME MINISTERSHIP, WHICH HE HAS HELD SINCE MARCH 1973, TO FIRST DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER HIJAZI WITHIN TWO WEEKS AND WILL ASK HIJAZI TO FORM A NEW CABINET.

SADAT HIMSELF ANNOUNCED ON WEDNESDAY THAT HE WAS READY TO TURN THE JOB OVER TO A FULL TIME PRIME MINISTER. HE GAVE NO MORE THAN A VAGUE HINT AS TO THE TIMING OF HIS MOVE, HOWEVER, AND DID NOT SPECIFY THAT THE MAN TABBED WOULD BE HIJAZI. ALTHOUGH HIJAZI PROBABLY WILL BE SELECTED, ALI AMIN'S DEFINITIVE ASSERTION

DATE:
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OUTGOING MESSAGE

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THAT THIS IS THE CASE AND HIS ESTIMATE THAT THE MOVE WILL OCCUR
 IN TWO WEEKS SHOULD BE REGARDED AS NO MORE THAN GUESSES. AMIN
 OFTEN REPORTS AS FACT WHAT IS IN ACTUALITY HIS OWN, OCCASIONALLY
 INACCURATE, SPECULATION.

IF AND WHEN SADAT'S "RESIGNATION" OCCURS, HE WILL NOT BE
 RELINQUISHING ANY IMPORTANT POWER. HE ASSUMED THE POST LAST YEAR
 IN A MOVE TO CONSOLIDATE PLANNING FOR THE WAR AND HAS SINCE BEEN
 RELUCTANT TO LEAVE IT ONLY BECAUSE HE FEARS THIS WOULD GIVE THE
 IMPRESSION THAT HE IS GIVING UP THE "STRUGGLE" WITH ISRAEL
 BEFORE THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES HAVE BEEN RETURNED. HIJAZI HAS
 BEEN SERVING AS PRIME MINISTER IN ALL BUT NAME, BUT SADAT AS
 PRESIDENT HAS WIELDED AND WILL CONTINUE TO EXERCISE THE EFFECTIVE
 POLICY-MAKING ^{AUTHORITY} IN THE GOVERNMENT. E-2 IMPDET.H

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